

The Time Varying Impact of Three Trans-NIH Health Disparities FOAs: A Perspective from OBSSR

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Introduction: OBSSR’s Health Disparities FOAs

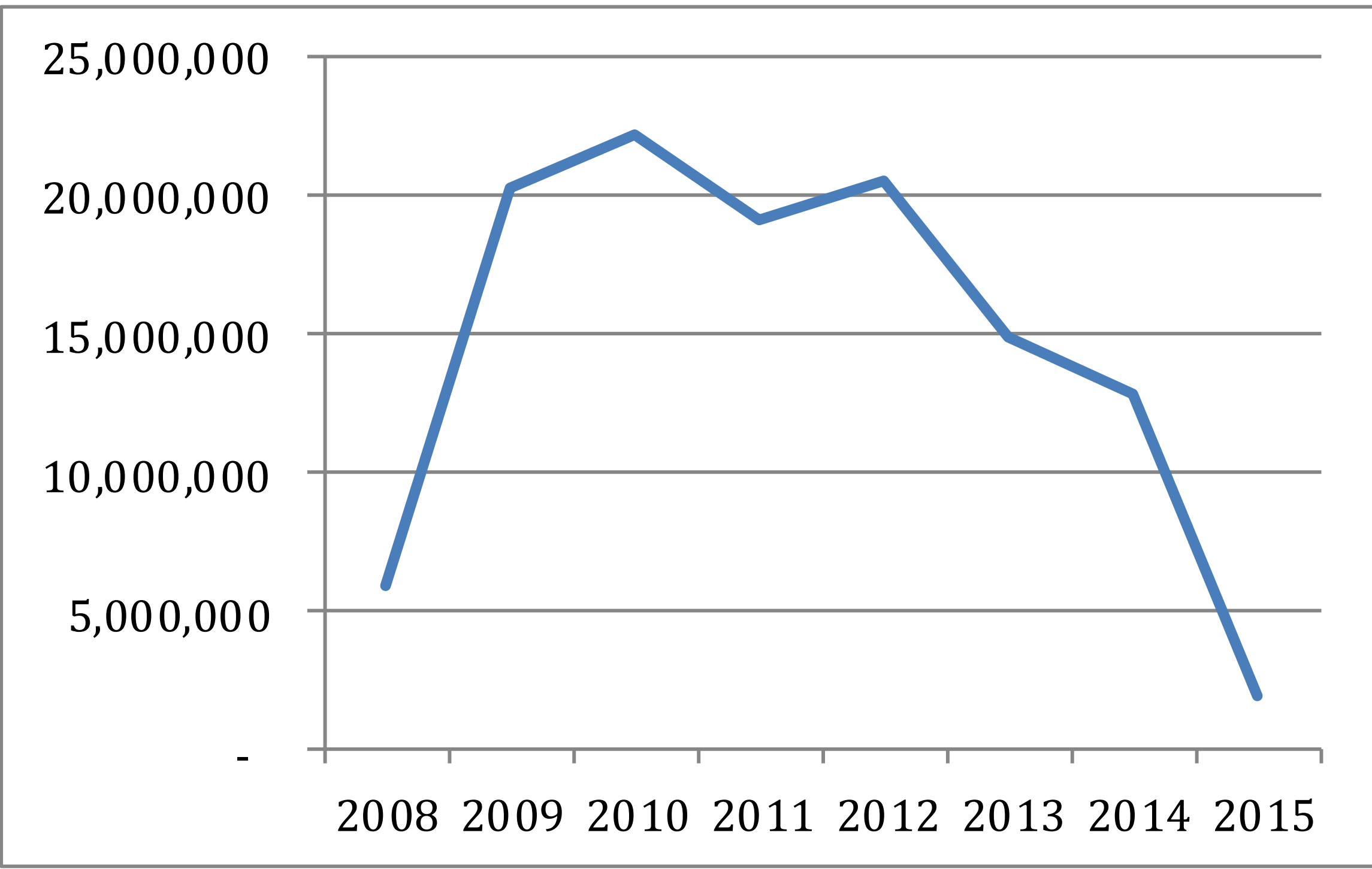
The creation of a health disparities funding announcement opportunity (FOA) was initially discussed at an OBSSR Behavioral and Social Sciences Coordinating Committee meeting as a potential trans-NIH activity that could promote behavioral and social science research (BSSR) at the NIH. Given its role to stimulate behavioral and social sciences research throughout the NIH, OBSSR was a natural fit for administering a trans-NIH FOA on health disparities.

In preparation for writing the FOA, a committee was convened to organize a conference to stimulate discussion about research and methodologies related to health disparities. The *NIH Conference on Understanding and Reducing Health Disparities: Contributions for the Behavioral and Social Sciences* was convened by OBSSR and its partner ICs in October 2006. The conference assembled a prestigious trans-disciplinary group of scholars who presented over two days, focusing on highlighting and demonstrating the actual and potential contributions of BSSR to NIH’s mission of reducing health disparities.

The resulting conference summary directly influenced the writing of the request for application (RFA), written collaboratively with a trans-NIH committee of IC partners. Originally released in June 2007, the first program announcements (PAR-07-379; PAR-07-380) solicited both R01 and R21 applications and the FOA was renewed twice, in 2010 (PAR-10-136; PAR-10-137), and the most recent renewal reissued in 2013 (PA-13-292; PA-13-288). The tables and data below describe some of the IC investments and outcomes across the three FOAs.

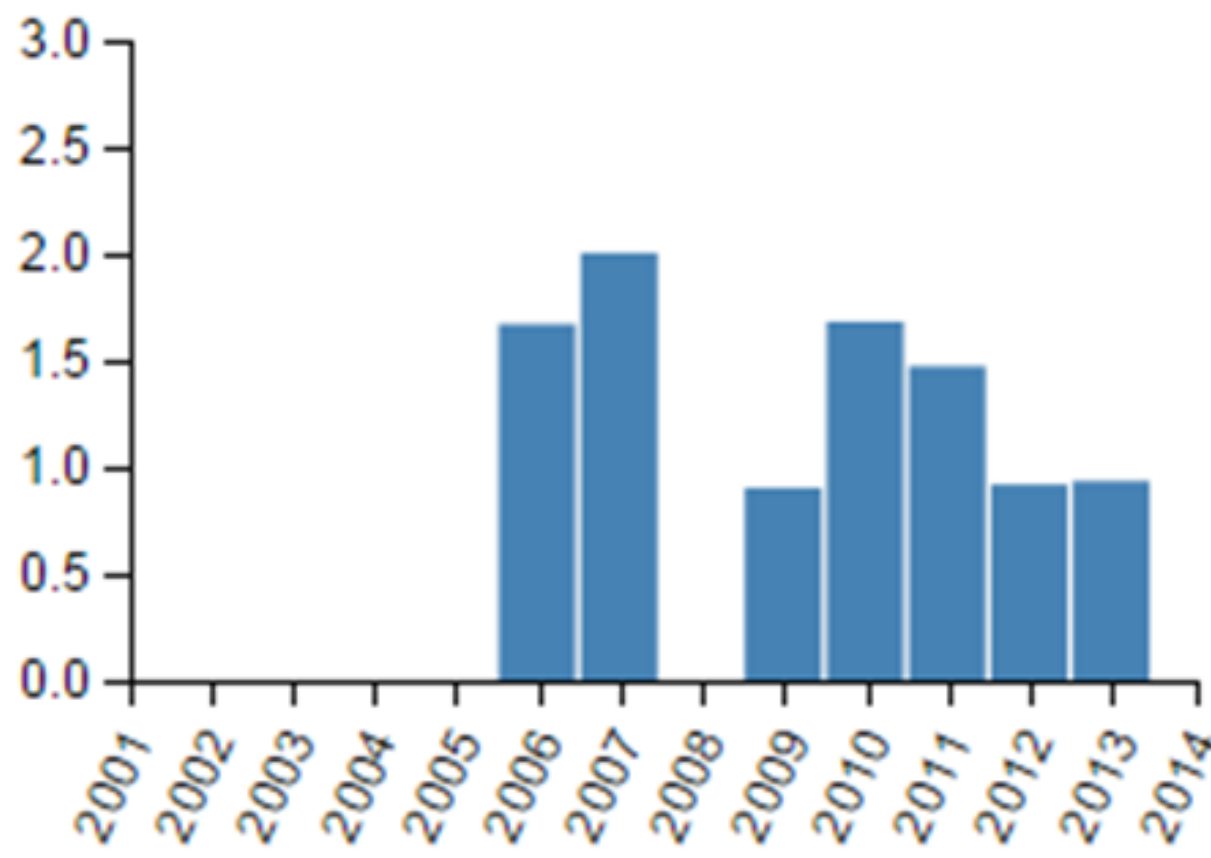
Fiscal Year	PA	Study Section	Total Projects	Total Dollars	ICs	Total Pubs	Citations
2008-2014	PAR-07-379 (R01)	ZRG1-RPHB-K (50)	43	\$ 80,552,709	12	388	3298
2008-2011	PAR-07-380 (R21)	ZRG1-RPHB-K (50)	18	\$ 6,965,494	10	40	454
2011- Present	PAR-10-136 (R01)	ZRG-RPHB-A(50); HDEP	16	\$ 22,514,345	8	76	124
2011 - 2014	PAR-10-137 (R21)	ZRG-RPHB-A(50); HDEP	18	\$ 6,418,899	7	10	5
2014 - Pre-sent	PAR-13-292 (R01)	n/a	12	\$ 1,051,439	2	1	n/a
2014 - Pre-sent	PAR-13-293 (R21)	n/a	7	\$ 919,869	3	0	n/a

Total Funding for All FOAs



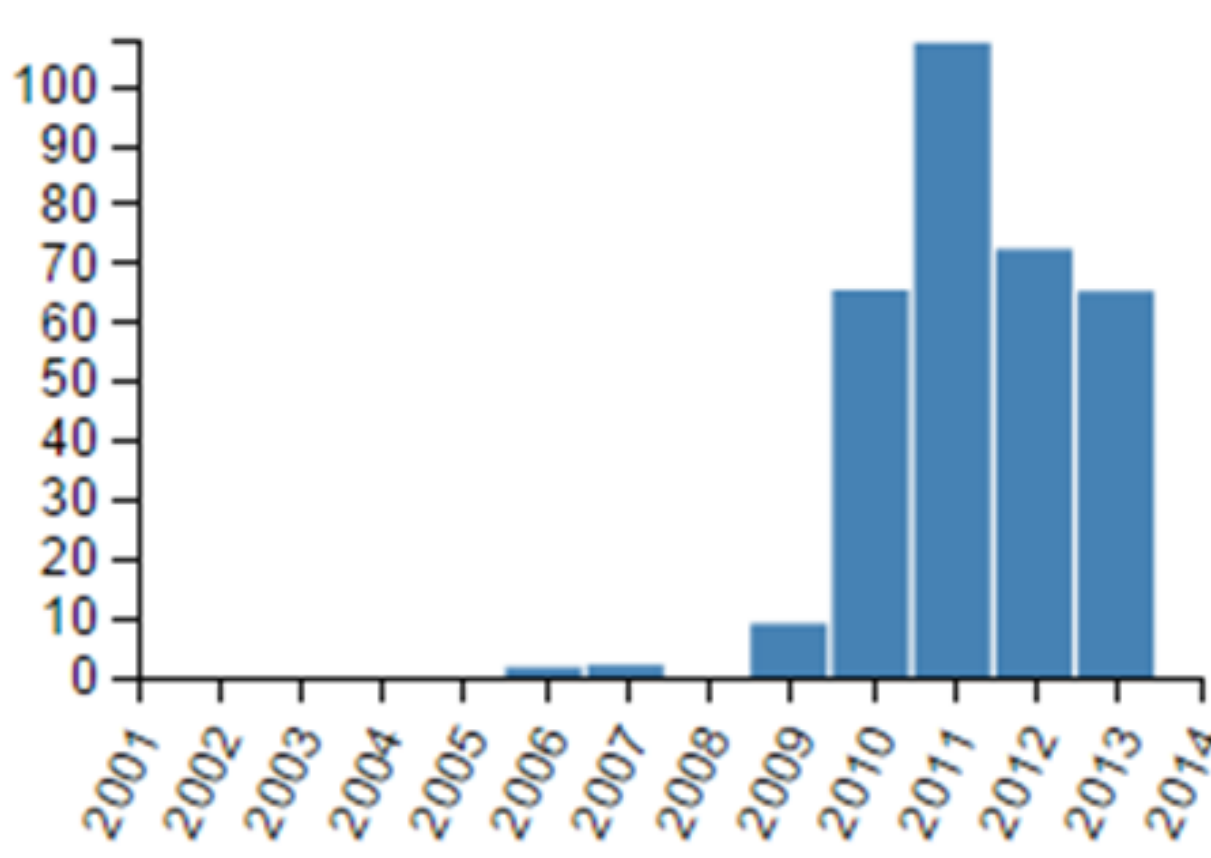
Bibliometric Analysis Using iCite

Relative Citation Ratio (RCR)



Relative Citation Ratio (RCR) represents a citation-based measure of scientific influence of an article. It is calculated as the cites/year of each paper, normalized to the citations per year received by NIH-funded papers in the same field and year.

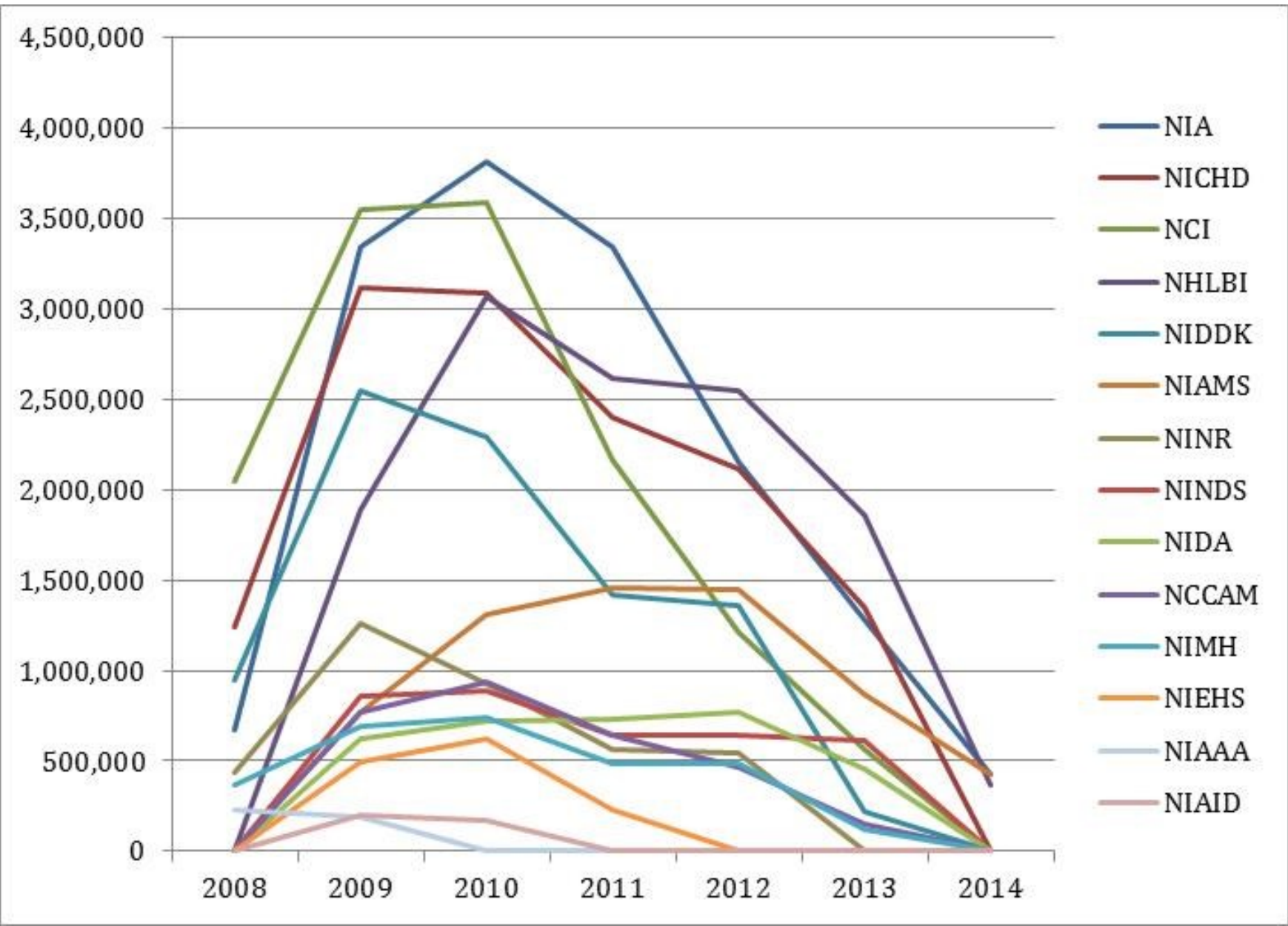
Weighted Relative Citation Ratio



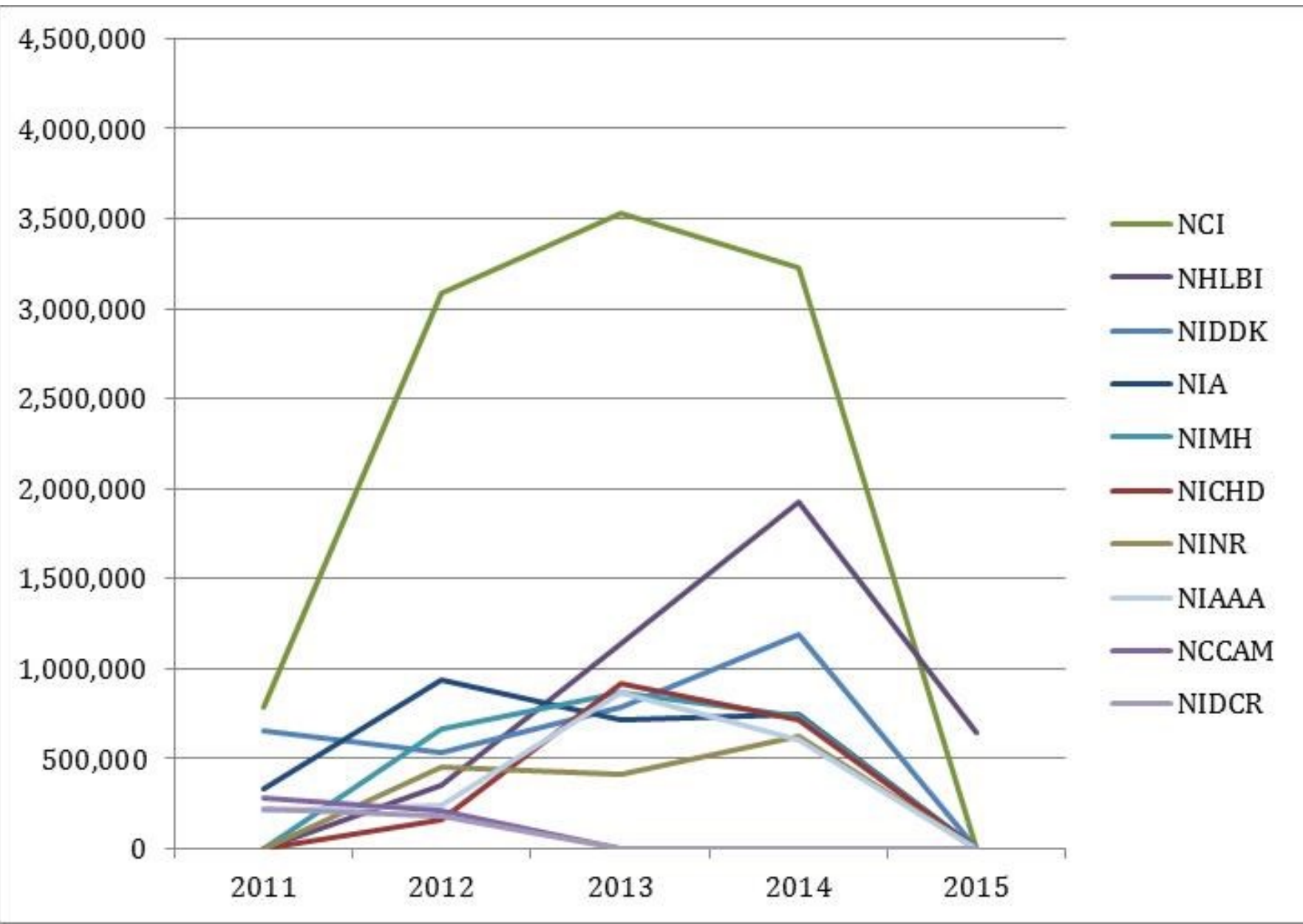
Weighted RCR is the total number of pubs multiplied by the average of their RCRs. This weights the article count by their influence relative to NIH-funded papers. Several funded projects by the Health Disparities FOA produced highly cited articles relative to the reference journal.

Funding By IC Across the Three FOAs

PAR-07-379 + PAR-07-380: 2008—2014



PAR-10-136 + PAR-10-137: 2011—Present



PA-13-292 + PA-13-288: 2014—Present

